

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PARIS 14385 040126Z
ACTION SS-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ONY-00 SSO-00 /028 W
-----013233 040745Z /17

R 040114Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1039

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FOR S/S - TARNOFF AND EUR ONLY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: FR
SUBJECT: INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH CHIEF OF
MISSION

REF: STATE 110030

1. SURVEY OF THE APRIL 29 ATTEMPT BY THE OPERATIONS
CENTER TO CONTACT THE AMBASSADOR HAS SHOWN THE FOLLOW-
ING CONCLUSIONS:

A. ALL OFFICIAL CALLS IDENTIFIED AS COMING
FROM THE STATE DEPARTMENT FOR THE AMBASSADOR RECEIVED
AFTER REGULAR OFFICE HOURS, WEEKENDS AND HOLIDAYS ARE
TRANSFERRED TO THE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. IN THE
EVENT OF THE AMBASSADOR'S ABSENCE, THEY ARE PASSED TO
THE EMBASSY DUTY OFFICER. DURING THE EVENING OF
SATURDAY, APRIL 29, AMBASSADOR HARTMAN WAS NOT AT
THE RESIDENCE BETWEEN THE HOURS OF 1800 PARIS TIME
(1100 EST) AND 0015 PARIS TIME ON SUNDAY, APRIL 30
(1715 EST APRIL 29). WHEN THE CALL IN QUESTION WAS
RECEIVED AT THE DUTY OFFICER'S RESIDENCE, THE
QUALITY OF THE CALL FROM WASHINGTON WAS EXCELLENT BUT
UNFORTUNATELY THE OPERATIONS CENTER COULD BARELY HEAR
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THE INCOMING SIGNAL FROM PARIS. THERE WERE APPARENTLY
TWO VOICES SPEAKING SIMULTANEOUSLY IN WASHINGTON.
DURING THE ATTEMPT TO PASS INFORMATION THE LINE WAS
EITHER DISCONNECTED OR THE OPERATIONS CENTER TERMIN-
ATED THE CALL. AFTER AN UNSUCCESSFUL INITIAL
ATTEMPT TO CONTACT THE EMBASSY OPERATOR, THE DUTY
OFFICER IMMEDIATELY WENT TO THE EMBASSY TO CONDUCT

HIS BUSINESS THERE. THE OPERATIONS CENTER, MEANWHILE, TRIED ONCE MORE TO CONTACT THE DUTY OFFICER BUT SINCE HE HAD DEPARTED HIS RESIDENCE ALL ACTION WAS HELD PENDING HIS ARRIVAL AT THE EMBASSY. THE CALL WAS PLACED IMMEDIATELY UPON THE DUTY OFFICER'S ARRIVAL AND UPON CONTACTING THE OPERATIONS CENTER IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE SAME POOR CIRCUIT QUALITY PREVENTED THE COMPLETION OF THE CALL. THE END RESULT OF THE ABORTED CONVERSATION WAS THAT THE OPERATIONS CENTER WOULD SEND A TELEGRAM.

B. SINCE THE OPERATIONS CENTER IS A

FREQUENT FOCAL POINT FOR HIGH LEVEL VOICE COMMUNICATIONS THERE SHOULD BE ON RECORD IN THAT AREA NOT ONLY THE PRIMARY PATH FOR VOICE COMMUNICATIONS BUT THE SECONDARY BACKUP AS WELL. THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THE COMMERCIAL BACKUP CAPABILITIES WERE CONSIDERED FOLLOWING THE UNSUCCESSFUL ATTEMPTS TO UTILIZE THE US GOVERNMENT LEASED FACILITIES.

2. THIS INCIDENT CLEARLY HIGHLIGHTS THE URGENT NEED FOR UPGRADING THE LONG DISTANCE VOICE COMMUNICATION CAPABILITIES OF THIS IMPORTANT POST, UPGRADING WHICH COULD HAVE ALREADY BEEN UNDERWAY HAD LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THE DEPARTMENT FOLLOWED THROUGH WITH THE PROMISED DELIVERY OF KY-70 EQUIPMENT WHICH WE LATER FOUND HAD BEEN DIVERTED TO OTHER PROJECTS HAVING "HIGHER PRIORITIES."

HARTMAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 may 1978
Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978PARIS14385
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780190-0139
Format: TEL
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780593/aaaadblp.tel
Line Count: 99
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f9e198a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: ONLY
Reference: 78 STATE 110030
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2793007
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: INABILITY TO COMMUNICATE WITH CHIEF OF MISSION
TAGS: OGEN, FR
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f9e198a4-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014